

Express Mail No.: EV336653634US
International Application No.: PCT/EP03/05619
International Filing Date: May 28, 2003
Preliminary Amendment Accompanying
Substitute Specification

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An Apparatus-apparatus for receiving and transporting electrical energy, comprising: characterised by

a -storage device which is formed from a plurality of storage elements;
(14) and

a vehicle having a connection for receiving electrical energy from an external source and for transmitting electrical energy from the storage device to an external load, wherein and which the storage device is arranged as a payload on and/or in afor the vehicle (10), wherein and in the delivery receiving and transmitting of the electrical energy the storage device remains on and/or in arranged as a payload for the vehicle and the vehicle has a connection for transmitting the stored electrical energy upon discharge.

2. (Currently Amended) The Apparatus-apparatus as set forth in claim 1 characterised by wherein the storage elements comprise accumulators and/or capacitors as the storage elements (14).

3. (Currently Amended) The Apparatus-apparatus as set forth in one of the preceding claims characterised claim 1 by wherein the plurality of storage elements (14) which are mechanically and/or electrically combined to form storage device groups (12).

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4. (Currently Amended) The Apparatus ~~apparatus~~ as set forth in claim 3 ~~characterised by~~ wherein a vehicle drive which is operable with the stored energy.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, Apparatus as set forth in one of the preceding claims ~~characterised by~~ further comprising:

fixed stations (22, 26; 32, 36) for charging up and discharging the storage device and/or for converting the electrical energy.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5 Apparatus as set forth in one of the preceding claims ~~characterised by~~ wherein the fixed stations comprise:

intermediate storage devices (24; 34) at the stations (22, 26; 32, 36) for intermediate storage of the electrical energy.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising: ~~Apparatus as set forth in one of the preceding claims characterised by~~ at least one electrical collective connection for a plurality of storage elements (14) and/or storage device groups (12).

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising: ~~Apparatus as set forth in one of the preceding claims characterised by~~ at least one opening in each storage element (14) for introducing or draining off a fluid.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Apparatus as set forth in claim 8 ~~characterised by~~ further comprising one or more collecting conduits which connect the openings of the storage elements (14) together.

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10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Apparatus as set forth in
claim 9 characterised in that wherein the collecting conduit opens into a container on
board the vehicle (10).

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further
comprising: Apparatus as set forth in one of the preceding claims characterised by a
device for monitoring individual storage elements (14) and/or for controlling the
charging/discharging operation and/or for supplying or removing fluid.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus Apparatus as set forth in
claim 11 characterised wherein in that the control or monitoring device is configured to
indicate indicates the an operating condition of at least one of individual storage elements
and/or storage device groups.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein
Apparatus as set forth in one of claims 11 and 12 characterised in that the monitoring or
control device is arranged on board the vehicle (10).

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11 Apparatus as set
forth in one of claims 11 through 13 characterised in that wherein the device
includes at least a microprocessor and a memory device.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of storing and transporting
electrical energy by means of a vehicle, wherein the vehicle carries carrying an electrical
storage device as a payload, characterised by the following steps comprising the steps of:
receiving electrical energy from a source external to the vehicle;

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- charging the storage device with the received electrical energy;
- transporting the vehicle to a destination; and
- discharging the storage device at the destination.

16. (Currently Amended) A-The method as set forth in claim 15,
characterised further comprising:

draining a fluid contained in the storage device in that after charging of the electrical energy into the storage device but prior to transport of the storage device to the destination ~~a fluid contained in the storage device is removed~~; and

introducing a fluid into the storage device that after transport of the storage device to the destination but prior to removal of the electrical energy fluid ~~is introduced into the storage device~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A-The method as set forth in claim 16
characterised in that further comprising:

cleaning the fluid is cleaned after removal; and
storing the cleaned fluid but prior to storage.

18. (Currently Amended) A-The method as set forth in ~~one of claims~~
~~12 and 13 characterised claim 15, wherein transporting the vehicle to a destination~~
~~comprises removing a container of storage device fluid from the vehicle in that the~~
~~container is taken off the vehicle (10) after the departure of the vehicle with the fluid~~
~~introduced thereinto or is put on board the vehicle before the vehicle (10) arrives~~
~~respectively.~~

19. (Currently Amended) A-The method as set forth in ~~one of claims~~
~~claim 16 further comprising; and 17 characterised in that the~~

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~~monitoring or control device detects the a number of charge/discharge cycles for each storage element; (14) and~~
~~outputting a corresponding notification when a predetermined number of cycles is reached outputs a corresponding notification.~~

20. (New) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 wherein the storage elements comprise capacitors.

21. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
fixed stations for converting the electrical energy.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a device for controlling a charging/discharging operation.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a device for supplying or removing fluid.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a device for controlling the charging/discharging operation and for supplying or removing fluid.

25. (New) A vehicle, comprising:
means for storing electrical energy received from an external source at a first location; and
means for discharging the stored electrical energy at a second location.